

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 04818 121228Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 121200Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1898

CONFIDENTIAL CAIRO 4818

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP PFOR EG US

SUBJECT: CODELS MEETING WITH JOURNALISTS MUHAMMAD HAYKAL

REF: CAIRO 4505

1. EMBASSY HAS REPORTED IN SEPTEL ON APRIL 11-12
CODEL ABOUREZK VISIT AND FACT THAT ABOUREZK SPENT
CONSIDERABLE TIME MAKING CONTACT WITH HAYKAL BY PHONE
AND ARRANGED TO SEE HIM AT AIRPORT UPON DEPARTURE.
(HOWEVER, KAYKAL DID NOT SHOW UP AT DEPARTURE LOUNGE.)
ABOUREZK INFORMED EMBASSY CONTROL OFFICER THAT
HE HAD DISCUSSED CODEL EAGLETON WITH HAYKAL AND
EMBOFF SHOULD CALL HAYKAL TO SET UP MEETING FOLLOWING
EAGLETON ARRIVAL APRIL 12.

2. AS POINTED OUT REFTEL, PRESIDENT SADAT REGARDS
HAYKAL'S OPPOSITION TO SINAI II AGREEMENT AND
LIBERALIZATION POLCIES AS TREASONABLE AND HAS ON
SEVERAL RECENT OCCASIONS CRITICIZED HAYKAL
IN MAJOR SPEECHES. MEETINGS BETWEEN CODELS AND
HAYKAL WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY BE USED BY HAYKAL TO
EMPHASIZE HIS IMPORTANCE AND TO EMBARRASS SADAT.

3. IF CODELS WISH TO MEET WITH HAYKAL DESPITE EMBASSY
EXPLANATION OF HIS CURRENT STATUS AND
EMBARRASSMENT TO SADAT, EMBASSY WOULD NOT OF COURSE
STAND IN WAY. HOWEVER, UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE,
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 04818 121228Z

WE DO NOT BELIEVE EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE ARRANGEMENTS. TO DO SO

WILL NOT ONLY TROUBLE SADAT, BUT WILL BE USED BY HAYKAL FOR HIS OWN ENDS. INSTEAD, WE WOULD SIMPLY PROVIDE CODEL WITH HAYKAL'S TELEPHONE NUMBER AND SUGGEST CODEL AIDE CALL TO ARRANGE MEETING. WE WOULD EXPLAIN REASON FOR THIS PROCEDURE. CONTROL OFFICER WOULD ALSO NOT ACCOMPANY CODEL ON CALL.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING IF DEPT. DISCUSSED HAYKAL WITH CODEL HASKELL AS REQUESTED REFTEL. SINCE HASKALL WILL BE HERE SAME TIME AS CODEL JAVITS, SUBJECT LIKELY TO ARISE AGAIN IF SENATOR JAVITS DESIRES TO MEET HAYKAL.
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